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From: Steven Kloetzel [mailto:skloetzel@TNC.ORG]

Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 7:31 PM

To: FS-comments-northern-helena

Cc: Steven Kloetzel; shaaland@mt.gov

Subject: -Mike Horse

Hello, Mike Horse Mine Remediation Team; I would like to comment on the tailings repository siting for the Mike Horse Mine (Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex). I attended the public meeting and discussed the several options with the team of experts there. As a local land manager, and as a former mine reclamation/revegetation consultant, I believe the "Section 35" option is the best location for the tailings repository.

To protect public safety and reduce negative impacts to tourism and the highways, I think the Mike Horse Team should seriously consider connecting the existing mining/logging roads over Nora Ridge, allowing for tailings hauling off-highway. There is a good road system in Nora Gulch (Section 25) that could be used and upgraded. I do think any new roads constructed for this effort should be considered temporary, i.e. removed and reclaimed after the several years of tailings hauling.

I am convinced that the agency personnel and consultants that are involved in the siting selection have the best interests of the people of Montana and the long-term health of the Blackfoot River well covered.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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